

Solid Waste Working Group

Improved Solid Waste Management options

Updated with input from 7/7/21 SWWG meeting

1. Expand or modify the hours at Community Waste Solutions to better accommodate the public.

Pros: could be done in the near future

Cons: increased staff costs to CWS if hours are expanded

Economics: possibly some increased staff costs to CWS

Could this change to Fri/Sat/Sun? works better for up the road folks because of road work. Holding trash is a problem if the days are consecutive. Maybe a Tue/Thur/Sunday. Or maybe add Sundays just for the summer. Need to make sure to accommodate people coming from up the road to town on workdays. Get a “final” recommendation from Craig.

Remind people that there is an option for home pick-up.

2. Provide bear-resistant public access dumpsters in select areas.

Pros: The public will put garbage in dumpsters for free

Cons: Problems with haz-mat in dumpsters.

Economics: how is this funded and how does it effect CWS home pick-up customers and those that self-haul? The dumpsters are with a specific account. Problems with haz-mat in dumpsters. Poor sorting at HFR and with dumpsters. This probably needs to be Borough funded. A downtown collection site, funded by Borough, and open a couple of days a week is a possibility.

3. Provide open-topped containers for drop off at Public Safety building, open a couple of days a week. Material is weighed and public is charged. Containers then taken to CWS. Recycling is collected by HFR.

Pros: Convenient location for public.

Cons: why do this? HFR and CWS aren't that far away and are already set up. It's an inconvenience for HFR and CWS.

Economics: If there is a charge, there will need to be scales and staff to weigh. If free, it will require Borough funding.

4. Construct a transfer station along the model of what was developed by SWWG in 2017.

Pros: One stop for people to bring in their waste and recycling

Cons: Would likely require a dedicated sales tax passed by the voters. Is there grant money available?

Economics: Would likely require a dedicated sales tax passed by the voters. Is there grant money available?

5. Institute mandatory home pickup with schedules that offer weekly, monthly or quarterly pickup.

Pros: Everyone is forced to participate in garbage collection. (Would there be an option for self-haul?)

Cons: Problem with mixed garbage and a decrease in recycling and composting. If this happens, then all waste will be baled and shipped and cost more. Winters are a real problem: snow and wind. Need a separation plan for compost, recycling, and garbage. Would need to have bear proof containers. Problems with snow and wind, especially in the winter.

Economics: Requires more trucks and drivers for CWS.

6. Illegal dumping - Big Trash Day; game cameras.

7. Public education

